

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-12, 14-22, 25-27, 41, 42, 44-46, 48-50 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kuns EPO 288633 and States, Sr. et al. U.S. 5,574,093 in view of Van Ooijen and Cowan et al. U.S. 2005207830A.

However, the examiner also stated that not all claims are seen as met or obvious over the art of record in this case. Accordingly, the limitation of claim 51 has been incorporated into independent claim 1, and the limitation of claim 52 has been incorporated into independent claim 25. Since claims 1 and 25 are the only independent claims in the application, the application should now be in condition for allowance.

The Applicant's amendment of claims 1 and 25 should not be taken as an admission that the claims are not patentable. Rather, these claims are being amended to expedite prosecution and allowance of these claims. The Applicant reserves the right to pursue claims similar to claims 1 and 25 in other continuing applications.

Applicant believes this Reply is fully responsive to all outstanding issues. In the event there are additional charges in connection with the filing of this Response, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the Deposit Account No. 50-0714/BION/0013 of the firm of the below-signed attorney in the amount of any necessary fee.

Respectfully submitted,

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